IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) For use with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal capable of having a data transfer rate corresponding to at least a high-speed operation, a performance indication system, comprising:

a rate discrimination subsystem configured to provide a determination of a data transfer rate of said USB signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation, said USB signal traversing through a USB terminator; and

a condition indication subsystem coupled to said rate discrimination subsystem and configured to indicate said data transfer rate to a user, wherein at least a portion of said performance indication system is contained in said USB terminator.

2. (Currently Amended) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~at least a portion of~~ said rate discrimination subsystem and said condition indication subsystem are both ~~performance indication system is~~ contained in said USB terminator ~~a USB cable assembly~~.

3. (Original) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said performance indication system is contained in a peripheral device.

4. (Previously Presented) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said condition indication subsystem employs a visual display to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

5. (Previously Presented) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said condition indication subsystem employs an audible device to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

6. (Original) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said determination of said data transfer rate is based on an outcome of a chirping process.

7. (Previously Presented) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said rate discrimination subsystem employs a control signal associated with said USB signal for said determination of said data transfer rate.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a performance indication system for use with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal capable of having a data transfer rate corresponding to at least a high-speed operation, comprising:

determining a data transfer rate of said USB signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation as said USB signal traverses through a USB terminator; and

indicating said data transfer rate to a user employing said USB terminator.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said USB terminator is part of a ~~determining and said indicating are performed in circuitry contained in~~ a USB cable assembly.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining is ~~and said indicating are~~ performed in circuitry contained in said USB terminator ~~a peripheral device~~.

11. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at least a portion of said indicating said data transfer rate employs a visual display.

12. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at least a portion of said indicating said data transfer rate employs an audible device.

13. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining of said data transfer rate is based on an outcome of a chirping process.

14. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said USB terminator includes first and second light emitting diodes, said indicating employing said first light emitting diode to indicate said full-speed operation and said second light emitting diode to indicate said high-speed operation ~~determining of said data transfer rate employs a control signal associated with said USB signal~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a central processing unit coupled to at least one peripheral device by a USB cable assembly ~~associated with a keyboard, a pointing device and a monitor~~; and

a ~~an intrinsic~~ performance indication system, including:

a rate discrimination subsystem that is configured to provide a determination of a data transfer rate of a Universal Serial Bus (USB) 2.0 or subsequent USB standard signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation; and

a condition indication subsystem, coupled to said rate discrimination subsystem, that is configured to indicate said data transfer rate to a user, wherein said performance indication system is contained within a device, said device selected from the group consisting of said central processing unit, said at least one peripheral device and said USB cable assembly.

16. (Currently Amended) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said ~~further comprising a~~ USB cable assembly includes at least one USB terminator and [[,]] at least a portion of said intrinsic performance indication system is ~~being~~ contained in said at least one USB terminator ~~cable assembly~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said central processing unit includes a physical interface having a control pin and said rate discrimination

subsystem determines said data transfer rate based on an assertion or a de-assertion of said control pin ~~further comprising a peripheral device, at least a portion of said intrinsic performance indication system being contained in said peripheral device~~.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said condition indication subsystem employs a visual display to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said condition indication subsystem employs an audible device to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

20. (Original) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said determination of said data transfer rate is based on an outcome of a chirping process.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said rate discrimination subsystem employs a control signal associated with said USB 2.0 signal for said determination of said data transfer rate.